



WJCIA BOARD MEETING

January 9, 2026

Location: Black Wolf Room-Staybridge Suites

9:00 AM

MINUTES

- I. Call to order by President – Icebreaker: One skill you want to learn or strengthen in 2026
 - a. Called to order – Barb called the meeting to order at 9:01am.
 - b. Board:
 - i. Present: Barb, Rachel, Kari, Kerry, Stacy, Katie, Morgan, Jason, Becky, Jacob, Ashley, Sarah, Cathrina, Kathy, Jodi, Tiffany
 - ii. Absent: Kenny
 - c. Stakeholders: Kiley-DOJ, Kendra-DCF, Jenny-ICJ, Casey Gerber-ICJ
- II. Secretary's Report
 - a. Review minutes
 - i. Cathrina emailed the minutes from the November board meeting on November 24, 2025.
 - b. Motion to accept
 - i. Cathrina makes a motion to approve the minutes that were sent out in November. The motion was seconded by Rachel. There were no discussion and the motion passed.
- III. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Review minutes
 - i. Katie plans to send out the treasurer
 - ii. send out later, trying to find where something is wrong
 - b. Motion to accept
- IV. Reports from State Agencies
 - a. DOC/DJC – Jenny McFadden-ICJ
Overview of returns/Question & Answer Session
 - i. When a youth from out of state is picked up
 1. Contact Jenny- Weekends don't count towards hours/days, but there are specific things that need to be completed.
 - ii. Youth picked up has an active warrant
 1. Youth will need to be detained in secure

2. It is WI (your counties) financial responsibility to pay for secure, but not transportation unless a deputy takes to airport.
 - a. At the airport the youth can't be detained in handcuffs. The officer must remain at the airport for 15 minutes after the plane takes off before leaving.
 - i. If there is a layover, the State where that airport is located provides supervision during the layover upon request.
3. Things will be entered into unity
 - a. form 3 (consent for voluntary return of out-of-state juvenile) will be given
 - b. Youth will need to consent or not to return to home state
 - c. The judge in the holding state will sign,
 - i. This starts the clock as Day 0 (zero)
 - ii. You have 5 days to get the youth returned to the home state. Home state will need to develop the return travel plan and communicate back to holding state.
 - d. If voluntary: Youth can travel unaccompanied unless a risk to harm self or others
 - e. If non-voluntary: must be accompanied unless both states ICJ offices determine different
 - i. There is nothing stating the worker can't transport the youth.
 - ii. Parents can pick up youth-nothing in rules saying they can't,
 - iii. Youth can fly by themselves
4. If kidnapped that is different
- iii. Youth picked up and there is no warrant
 1. Holding State makes the decision on where to hold
 2. Can be held in detention if there is a safety risk
 3. If they run from shelter, everything will be communicated with home state
 4. Must be released to legal guardian or custodial agency within 24 hours excluding weekends/holidays
- iv. If there are charges:
 1. Don't hold Form 3 hearing right away
 2. charges in WI need to be resolved before a return can be set up.
 - a. Once you know when the WI proceedings will be finalized then file form 3
 - b. If youth abscond- let Jenny know right away
- v. If a parent/guardian can pick up a kid that has been picked up out of state, but no YJ in another state, if they can do so within 24 hours then no ICJ needed
- vi. Working on updates in unity, doing training if needed
- vii. New compliance is being rolled out everything has to be on time, or the state will be dinged and will then have to do compliance
- viii. Act 185 rolled out with SRCCCYs
- ix. If youth are moving to WI and are on a current order:

1. Discharge from that order before 18- the case will be assigned to county
2. Discharge from the order after 18 - assigned to state
3. If youth is assigned to state workers and lives in the same house as another youth who has a county worker, hoping to be able to coordinate/plan things
4. How do we communicate if a youth assigned to state is in our county about services?
 - a. Thoughts about sending an email out as an FYI, if a youth on DJC order moves to the state so the county is aware
 - i. Will start doing this practice, just like how travel permits are sent out
- x. Language has changed to the ICJ rules- updated every 2 years, the handouts we have may not be the most current
- xi. If interested in training, reach out to Jenny
 1. Willing to come to counties to provide
- b. Casey Gerber
 - i. MJTC is not ready to take regular change of placements
 1. Only way to get a kid here is through LH/CL
 2. SRCCCYs to
 - a. Casey asks for denial letter if needed
 - i. Correction placements
 1. Don't require perm plan
 - b. Contracts bed so they could be "full" but not actually
 - ii. Rise up has phases, youth petition to phase up in the program, updates are filed with the courts, youth petition the court for release
 1. Requires a change of placement to be released from SRCCCY
 - iii. Change to placement to CL/LH order
 1. Court must designate the county to provide aftercare or doc to provide supervision upon release from type 1
 - a. Counties are charged daily rate
- c. DOJ – Kiley Komro
 - i. Multiple grants are planned for 2026
 1. Can be found on the [DOJ grants page](#)
 - a. If your county is looking to improve the YJ system or youth outcomes with grant funding
 - ii. 2026 meetings of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission and its subcommittees are scheduled
 1. Zoom links can be found on their [website](#).
 2. Past meetings minutes are posted on the related About GJJC or subcommittee pages
 - iii. Three-Year Planning will begin shortly for the 2027-2029 period.
 - iv. Reach out if you have specific juvenile justice system needs that you would like considered in the next action plan.
 - v. The GJJC membership is founded on a combination of provisions in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act) and Executive Order #43 establishing the group. All Commissioners are appointed by the Governor to fill one or more of the required roles while also ensuring balance requirements are met (less than 50% of members can be full time government employees, 20% of members must be under the age of 28 at time of appointment, and

3 members must have current or past lived experience in the juvenile justice system).

1. To apply for appointment, individuals must submit an online application on the Governor's [Apply to Serve page](#) and are encouraged to email Kiley Komro as notice to verify that there is a vacancy that fits your experience.
- vi. If you want to receive grant updates email Kiley at Kiley.Komro@wisdoj.gov
- d. DOC/DJC – Michelle Buehl (HANDOUT)
 - i. No Facility updates
 1. If you have questions about placement or programs at CLS/LHS, please reach out to Casey Gerber: casey.gerber@wisconsin.gov
 - ii. Facility:
 1. Population as of 1/2/2026:
 - a. CLS – 7
 - b. LHS – 71
 - c. MJTF – 24 males / 7 females
 - d. GROW – 3
 - e. Total – 112
 - iii. DJC is in support of SB 485 – This bill authorizes group homes, shelter care facilities, and child welfare agencies that operate a residential care center for children and youth to use video surveillance and recordings in common areas, entrances, and exits without the consent of the child being surveilled or recorded, but must inform the child and the child's parent, guardian, legal custodian, or Indian custodian about the video surveillance and recording.
 - iv. DJC is also in support of circulating bills SB801/AB845, to ban juvenile life without parole (JLWOP) sentences and create a new sentence adjustment procedure for "youthful offenders" who committed crimes before age 18. The bill proposes requires courts to consider mitigating factors related to youth and allows those currently serving a JLWOP sentence to petition for a review after a substantial period of time.
 - v. No field updates
 - vi. Grow Academy: Grow Academy staff participated in 3 days of DBT training in November. Terry Jones was hired as the Grow Academy Institution Unit Supervisor/Program Manager position, effective 12/28/2025. Terry has been at the Grow Academy for the past 6 years, as a youth counselor – advanced and supervising youth counselor.
- e. DCF – Evelyn Cooker & Team Kendra
 - i. Youth Services Conference
 1. Save the date April 29-May 1
 2. Wilderness Resort Wisconsin Dells
 3. Registration opens February 3rd
 - ii. YAC next meeting February 7 -- going to be offering hybrid
 1. Going to have counties host
 2. Gretta Munns is contact Margaret.munns@wi.gov
 - iii. Youth Leadership Team meets again February 26th
 1. Contacts are Tonisha Hora Tonisha.hora1@wisconsin.gov and Shane Arndt shane.arndt1@wisconsin.gov

- iv. 2026 Innovation Grants have been awarded
 - 1. Reducing YJ referrals - Waukesha and Waupaca
 - 2. Pre-Court Diversion – Iron
 - 3. Post-Dispositional Services – Eau Claire, Portage and Lincoln
 - 4. Continuation – Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Forest, Juneau, Kenosha, Kewaunee, La Crosse, Monroe, Ozaukee, Racine, Sawyer, Sheboygan, Taylor, Winnebago, Wood
 - 5. Micro Grant - Jefferson
- v. YASI interrater reliability pilot
 - 1. Measures how well multiple people assess the same information
 - a. Looking to evaluate the consistency of scoring of the YASI across all staff involved
 - b. 6 counties volunteer to complete YASI IRR pilot
 - i. Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Dunn, Sauk, Fond du Lac
 - 2. Reviewing the results now to see what areas need more support.
 - a. The reports will be shared along with recommendations once reviewed
- vi. YJ Data
 - 1. Was added to the child welfare professional date resource page
 - a. secure detention dashboard
 - b. CW metric dashboard
 - 2. Now housed in sacwis so working on more dashboards
 - a. Next will be intake dashboard
- vii. Education points of contact
 - 1. Mo Green and Alana Peck
 - 2. Updated the Best interest determination information worksheet
- viii. Feel free to invite anyone from DCF to YJ region meetings
- ix. Wi information support portal 14-23 Mitchel George will be sharing more details/answer questions in regional meetings
 - 1. Can view information
 - 2. Youth can/worker get:
 - a. Update contact/demographics
 - b. Has a message center
 - c. Resource inventory
 - d. Rolled out for SIL planning
 - 3. Youth can personalize it
 - 4. Was released in October, can be accessed on phone/tablet/computer
 - a. Some enhancements have been scheduled already
 - 5. Released to full state in February
- x. Expanding SIL eligibility- send an email
 - 1. Youth discharging from court ordered IL OHC placement by 48.9795 guardianship on or after age 16 qualify for IL services post-discharge
 - a. This is an expansion to the prior change to allow youth under a 48.977 guardianship on or after age 16

- 2. May also qualify now under substantially similar tribal law
- 3. There are no other changes to IL eligibility, youth may continue to qualify via adoption or by discharging at age 18 or older, as already in effect
- xi. IL office hours January 20 noon-1 recurring monthly
 - 1. Meeting ID: 259 474 685 968
 - 2. Passcode: txNAzk
- xii. YJPCP
 - 1. In 2026 will be a pre-rec for CCW 1 and basic intake
 - a. If you miss before CCW 1, you will need to do before CCW 2
 - b. Will be an auto enrollment for new YJ workers
 - c. If the worker needs to reschedule, PDS will work with the worker
- f. WCWPDS – Nicki Laudloff/Lindsay Ebben
 - i. Nothing this month but do plan to attend in February.

V. President's Report

- a. Board members' resignations discussion
 - i. With discussion with Nomination committee this will be tabled until later in the meeting
- b. Executive Committee updates
 - i. Thanks for attending games if you came last night.
 - ii. Looking at something for next month. It is not required to attend; it is there if you would like to come.
 - iii. Planning for next year
 - 1. If interested in becoming President Elect reach out to Rachel
 - iv. Connection with new workers
 - 1. Barb and Rachel will connect in January and set up meetings for February
 - a. Any need/desires moving forward
 - 2. If second year will also check in to see if you have feedback
- c. NCJFCJ Juvenile Justice Conference budget/request to attend
 - i. Barb emailed out a request on December 23, 2025, to attend NCJFCJ Juvenile Justice Conference in Minneapolis MN on March 15- 18 2026.
 - 1. Description: The conference will feature amazing presentations on current and cutting-edge topics that will inspire you, broaden your knowledge, and provoke discussions about issues facing the juvenile and family court system.
 - 2. For 88 years, the NCJFCJ has led systems to change by embracing the values of Compassion, Leadership, Education, and Community through our network of more than 30,000 juvenile and family court professionals who share in the mission of this organization.
 - 3. There will be plenary and breakout sessions on juvenile justice, trafficking, child welfare, court best practices, and innovative solutions. These are just some of the educational offerings of the 2026 National Conference on Juvenile Justice.

COST	BARB'S PROJECTED BUDGET	STACY'S 2025 PROJECTED BUDGET
Registration	\$895 (early bird registration by 1/16/2026)	\$595 (NCJFCJ Member fee)
Mileage	\$305	\$500
Hotel	\$567 (Minneapolis - \$189/night)	\$939.75 (Boston - \$313.25/night)
Taxi	\$0	\$100
Parking – hotel	\$220 (\$55/day)	\$62
Gas	\$0	\$24.50
Food	\$35/day x 4 = \$140	\$79/day x 3 = \$237
TOTAL	\$2,127	\$2458.25

- ii. To apply for scholarships, one must be a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. I'm not eligible to apply since I'm not currently a member.
- iii. Mileage: I would plan to claim \$0.51/miles, which is our county's rate of reimbursement. I'll be traveling from Madison to get there so the miles on the first day will be less than on the way home to Manitowoc.
- iv. Meals: Continental breakfast is included.
- v. Barb makes a motion to approve up to \$2,300 to attend the NCJFCJ Juvenile Justice Conference.
 - 1. Kathy seconded the motion and the room was opened for discussion.
 - 2. Upon the vote, everyone was in Favor – Barb thanks the Board and looks forward to attending

VI. County Updates/Case Discussion

- a. Grant County – Morgan (Thrive)
 - i. Teaching **Healthy Relationships In Volunteering & Education**
 - ii. Parent support specialist runs the program
 - iii. Get youth together
 - 1. Community service, employment skills, financial literacy, healthy relations, health and wellness, independent life skills, responsiveness
 - a. Job employment/application, how to get SS
 - 2. Sessions are typically 1 1/2 hours long virtual or in person depending on topic
 - 3. Tailored to youths' specific needs and strengths in the group
 - iv. Been doing the program for 2-3 years
 - 1. First year was rough, but things have significantly improved.
 - v. Can use for court ordered community service hours
 - 1. With a small community, people don't want the youth to complete hours with them, but they will allow them when they are involved in THRIVE
 - vi. All help are volunteers, but Lisa organizes the activities/ sessions.
 - vii. Kiley Komro would encourage youth voice commission (ages 14-27) for successful youth. These youth are then recruited for the governor's juvenile justice commission
- b. Jefferson County – Ashley (Connect parenting class)
 - i. 10-week program
 - ii. Aimed to support parents/caregivers of pre-teen/teens

1. Not an ABC course
2. 90 min each session 5-12 people per group
3. Three groups have completed now
 - a. Teaching in the beginning, then role playing
4. Curriculum is originally from Canada
5. Voluntary program
6. Do not have to have a youth involved in any system
- iii. Parents feel supported – Parenting is not easy
- iv. Principles are:
 1. All behavior has meanings 2. Attachment is for life 3. Conflict is part of all relationships 4. Autonomy includes connection: secure attachment is a balance between connection and independence 5. Empathy is the heartbeat of attachment 6. Balancing our needs with the needs of others 7. Growth and change 8. Attachment includes joy and pain 9. Two steps forward, one step: staying the course during adversity

Upcoming counties in February 2026

*Jefferson County-Restorative Justice practices-Ashley

*Need one more volunteer

Stacy-Philosophy and Way of Practices

Tiffany- Restorative Justice

VII. Break

- a. Break was taken at 10:37. Was requested to be back at 10:50, to complete the meeting.

VIII. Committee Reports: Barb will send out a new schedule

A. By-Laws: Ashley

- a. Should have a final rough draft in February for review
 - i. The draft will be able to show the changes
 - ii. Will bring copies but will also email out

B. Conference: Cathrina/Rachel (Vendors: Kerry; Raffle: assignment needed)

- a. Went over at least 50 speakers
- b. Raffle
 - i. \$1500 to spend, Ashley has volunteered to take over
- c. Cathrina/Kari will connect about adding a few options to conference registration
- d. Conference board room discussion
 - i. cost falls here vs board expense, we used to receive a “free” room for every so many rooms booked
 - ii. Will have to look at an amended budget to reflect presentation room/AV charges

C. Conference Site: Cathrina/Kenny

- a. Discussed different charges – see above

D. Training: Sarah

- a. Joint with Grant
- b. Innovation grant ended .93 cents over budget
 - i. If we had not spent all of it, then Sarah would have had to submit how much was left over.
 - ii. We wouldn’t have to send the money back if not spent. We never received it all, we just have not received the leftover funds.

1. Kiley states- grants can be complicated and she can walk you through every step of the way if interested.
- c. Future trainings are getting set-up
 - i. Carey Guides and B.I.T.S: Racine, Marathon
 - ii. Carey Guides and B.I.T.S Booster: Madison
 - iii. ART Training: Janesville, Chippewa
- d. Not aware of any new grants that fit our philosophy at this time
 - i. Agree, it would be a good time to focus on the 3 we have currently and get established.
- e. Discussion on a Spring 2027 training
- E. Finance: Katie for Kenny
 - a. Reviewed four budgets and approved
 - i. Training, IT, Recognition, Conference
 - b. Increased technology's budget
 - c. Recognition's budget lowered- took away the cost of plaque
 - d. Looking for a full board budget for February
- F. Grant: Stacy
- G. Legislative: Jacob
 - a. Different ways to advocate for raising the age and maybe a few other skills
 - b. Contacting Raise the Age Wi as the board
 - c. How do we get a seat at the table?
 - i. Jacob talked to Kiley about being at GJJJC
 - ii. Kiley
 1. Evers appoint people to the commission
 - a. people have to apply → has to be reviewed → vacancies are very rare → no terms → governor has to remove them or they step down → very low turnover
 - b. Roles- some check multiple boxes
 - i. No less than 15 members, no more than 30 members
 - ii. 1 local official
 - iii. 1 LE/YJ
 - iv. 1 MH
 - c. Other
 - i. Only 49% can be full-time government workers
 - d. Youth balance 1/5 commission
 - i. Under 25 once appointed
 - e. 3 members at least with lived experience with justice order
 - i. In statute
 2. If wanting to appoint a new adult member, most times there is a youth also needed to keep checks and balances.
 3. People are appointed individually not by organizations or associations.
 - iii. Do we need a motion? All GJJJC meetings are public.
 1. Subcommittees- cap around 15 people commissioners can appoint to these.
 2. Stacy- "Make motion- If Jacob chooses to apply for the GJJJC, WJCIA would support. Jason second

- a. Discussion: Does WJCIA need the county to also give recommendations?
 - b. Talk with supervisor to be at least supported as worker.
 - c. Since it is outside of “work” does he really?
 - 3. Motion passes that we would support him
- H. Membership: Rachel (Intake Directory: Kerry)
 - a. Apparel store again -- need a different format of the logo in order to upload
 - b. Kerry is working on updates to see where our gaps are in the directory
 - c. Jason had some interns that updated the secure/shelter care lists
- I. Goals and Statements of Philosophy: Ashley
 - a. Committee doesn’t need to meet currently.
- J. Newsletter: Katie
 - a. They are going to meet January 16 to work on April’s newsletter
 - b. Committee chairs summaries by March 20
 - i. What you are doing or working on
- K. Nomination: Stacy
 - a. They have met several times since conference, and were not able to yesterday
 - b. Looking at composition of the board and bylaws as they are being updated
 - c. Looking at process
 - i. Trying to avoid last minute nominations
 - ii. Interest be expressed 3 weeks before, 2 weeks before letter of interest/agency approval/photo/
 - d. Vaccinee
 - i. If more than 4 months prior-
 - 1. Will have discussion at next board meetings
 - e. Current members
 - i. 2 weeks prior- confirm expectation, make last minute decision
 - f. Had 3 people express interest recently
 - i. Brienna-emailed yesterday and the committee did not have time to review or connect with her, but she is present for today’s meeting.
 - ii. Jamie Orr: Fond du Lac Had a member on the board since it started, would be a good asset to have on the board, had letter, spoke with supervisor
 - 1. On behalf of the committee: Motion Jamie Orr be approved as WJCIA board member effective immediately.
 - a. Kathy second
 - b. Discussion: Rachel an electronic vote is set up
 - c. Kiley informed us of the different types of votes: roll call, voice vote
 - 2. Vote- 16 eyes, 0 nos- pass
 - iii. Amy from Portage- letter of interest
 - 1. On behalf of the committee: motion Amy be approved as WJCIA board member effective immediately
 - a. Kathy second
 - 2. Vote 16 eyes, 0 nos – pass

- iv. Stacy has been transparent with Brienna about bylaws looking at updates.
 - 1. Looking like there may be a motion in the new bylaws that associate members are not on board
 - 2. Brienna spoke of her interest- not as a rawhide employee, but as a social worker, a voice, have intake experience not just RCC
 - 3. Previously she left the board when she took a position at Redrock and then took a position at Rawhide
 - a. Kathy question- What interests you about being on the board?
 - i. Voice out, advocate others to attend conferences and join WJCIA, build connections across county systems
- v. Ashley discussed what the change would look like in bylaws and when it would take effect, give the 2-week notice, if passes then would have to see about grandfather in or what happens

L. Recognition: Rachel

- a. Did not meet, will put something together for the newsletter

M. Technology: Kari

- a. Met with membership
- b. Full control of website
- c. Maybe looking at changing vendors for constant contact

IX. Regional Meeting Updates

- Region 1 – Sarah
 - Had December 11, there is nothing set up at this time
- Region 2/5 - Kathy, Kenny, Jodi, Becky, Jason, Stacy (no current Region 2 members)
 - Last meeting they had WRS
- Region 3 – Kerry, Rachel
 - Met in November
 - Scheduled for all of 2026, next will be in March in Chippewa
- Region 4 - Kari, Cathrina, Morgan
 - Meeting scheduled for January 15
- Region 6 - Katie, Ashley, Jacob
 - Michelle is going to help start meetings again. Ashley plans to connect with Michelle at the end of January.
- Region 7 – Tiffany, Barb
 - Next February 10 at 1pm
 - Tiffany is going to push her staff to attend

X. Special Assignments

- A. WJJN-Rotating based on dates/location – Kari
 - a. Last held in December
 - b. Next meeting is in March TBD
- B. Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission – Ashley/Jacob
- C. YJ Advisory Committee-Stacy
 - a. No updates
- D. Other Special assignments
 - a. Nothing

XI. New business/Unfinished Business/Case Discussion

- a. Jacob thanked the board for support while he was helping family after the hurricane.
- b. Old Business: Board Meeting with the new Board on Thursday afternoon during conference (Please refer to the minutes for suggestions made during the 11/7/2025 Board meeting)
 - i. Discussion was moved to February's meeting due to the consideration of time.
- c. New Business:
 - i. Conference raffle planning
 - 1. Was covered under conference
 - ii. Looking for a residential for 16 yr old, trafficked by own mother, every drug possible, given meth, she wanted intensive outpatient and they are trying, fear is she will be picked up by her mother or escort and overdose, is now trafficking her sister, kicked out of everything, Trial reunification with the father who appropriate
 - 1. Anchorage was suggested
 - 2. Iowa-Foundations
 - 3. US survivor care,
 - 4. Reclaim 13 was found via Google with resources

XII. Adjourn

- a. Jason makes a motion to adjourn the board meeting at 12:18pm.
- b. Jody second the motion and the meeting is adjourned.

Next meeting February 27, 2026 @ 9am